

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In the Claims:

- 1-20. (Cancelled).
21. (Currently amended) A method of screening for ~~for identifying~~ a compound that decreases binding between ~~a protein comprising~~ a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of Seq ID NO:1 and the ~~protein's~~ polypeptide's receptor expressed on B cells, the method comprising contacting said ~~protein~~ polypeptide and said B cell receptor in the presence of a test compound, where a decrease in binding of the ~~protein~~ polypeptide to the receptor, compared to that which would occur in the absence of said test compound, indicates said test compound decreases the binding of the ~~protein~~ polypeptide and the receptor.
22. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 21 wherein the ~~protein comprises a~~ polypeptide comprises ~~having~~ the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
23. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 21 wherein the ~~protein~~ polypeptide is a trimer.
24. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 21 wherein the ~~protein~~ polypeptide is a homotrimer.
25. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 22 wherein the ~~protein~~ polypeptide is a trimer.
26. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 22 wherein the ~~protein~~ polypeptide is a homotrimer.
- 27-36. (Cancelled).